

# BAL HARBOUR

- V I L L A G E -

SPRING 2023

VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 1

## SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION MAY 2, 2023

On February 21, 2023, the Bal Harbour Village Council passed Resolution 2023-1540 providing for submission, to the Village electors, of a proposed Charter amendment allowing for the height of structures, used for municipal structures only, to be measured from the highest minimum elevation provided by state or federal law.

The proposed charter amendment will ask residents to vote 'YES' or 'NO' to allow the height of structures that are used for municipal structures only to be measured from the highest minimum elevation required by state or federal law, as opposed to the current reference point, which is street elevation. The current height for structures used for municipal purposes does not take into account changing state or federal requirements for the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) of buildings.

A similar amendment was approved to the charter as a result of the November 3, 2020 election, when electors approved allowing the height of single-family dwellings to be measured from the highest minimum elevation required by state or federal law. This current proposed amendment for the May 2, 2023 election considers a similar measurement reference, **but for municipal structures only**. Approval of this amendment would currently only apply to the new Village Hall construction slated for 9800 Collins Avenue (the former Fairfield property) just north of the Bal Harbour Shops.

### KEY DATES

- **Saturday, April 22 - Deadline to Request Vote-by-Mail Ballot\***
- **Tuesday, May 2 | 7 AM - 7 PM - Election Day**

*\* Due to recent changes in Florida law, all requests for vote-by-mail ballots expired at the end of 2022. If you would like to continue voting by mail, you will need to submit a new request by visiting [miamidade.gov/elections](https://miamidade.gov/elections).*

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING ELECTION AND HOW TO VOTE,  
VISIT [BALHARBOURFL.GOV/ELECTIONS](https://BALHARBOURFL.GOV/ELECTIONS).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BALLOT QUESTION, VISIT  
[BALHARBOURFL.GOV/SPECIALELECTION](https://BALHARBOURFL.GOV/SPECIALELECTION).

# MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE



The Spring season brings new beginnings, and this certainly rings true in Bal Harbour Village. We ended 2022 on a positive note, celebrating many successes as we entered the new year. Since then, Village staff have been working diligently to provide new and expanded services for 2023. This has included the launch of our new redesigned websites, the addition of Freebee service, the installation of beach access mats at each beachside property, and significant progress to our Bal Harbour Waterfront Park project and capital projects.

Throughout the Spring and primarily April, we celebrate Earth Month and the Village's commitment to sustainable practices. The Village's commitment ranges from an expanded recycling program to quarterly beach cleanups. There are various ways that we can all contribute to being a part of the solution. Learn more about the Village's initiatives on page 4.

Our Bal Harbour Police Department's dedication to the community is unparalleled. This Spring we are proud to recognize their efforts and commitment to making Bal Harbour a safe and inclusive community for all. Read more about the Department's recent achievements and events on page 5.

Only a few months into 2023, and we have already savored several incredible events with our residents and guests. From concerts on the beach to Fleurs de Villes floral art installations, there's been something for everyone. A full calendar of events and activities is planned for the Spring season. Preview the season ahead on pages 6-7.

It is now easier than ever to stay in the know with our weekly email blasts. Sign up online at [balharbourfl.gov/stay-connected](http://balharbourfl.gov/stay-connected). You can also connect with us on social media, the website, and our Bal Harbour Alerts. Additional information is available on page 6.

For questions or more information: please feel free to visit Village Hall (Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.), call us at 305.866.4633, or email us at [communications@balharbourfl.gov](mailto:communications@balharbourfl.gov).

## VILLAGE COUNCIL



DAVID ALBAUM  
COUNCILMAN  
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SETH E. SALVER  
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DAVID WOLF  
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## VILLAGE OFFICIALS



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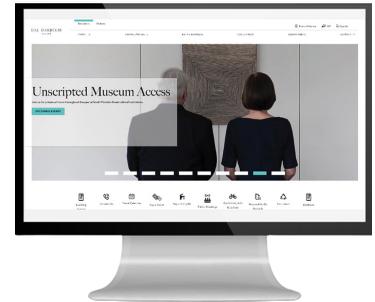
# AROUND THE VILLAGE

## NEW REDESIGNED WEBSITES UNVEILED

Bal Harbour Village is proud to unveil the newly redesigned [balharbourfl.gov](http://balharbourfl.gov) and [balharbourflorida.com](http://balharbourflorida.com) websites. The redesign is one of the latest initiatives to facilitate the way our residents and visitors connect with the Village. The development process focused on connecting the local government and tourism sites into one seamless interaction. The new sites are now available in multiple languages, allowing users to seamlessly switch from English to Hebrew, Portuguese, Russian, or Spanish.

On the new residential site, residents can easily locate information and complete transactions, such as bill payments and records requests, directly on the site. Accessible and responsive design were key components of the new sites to provide an overall enhanced experience for all.

The Village will continue enhancing the websites to best meet the community's needs. We invite you to take a look around and let us know what you think by taking our brief survey.



## GETTING THERE JUST GOT EASIER WITH FREEBEE

In support of Bal Harbour's commitment to sustainability, Freebee delivers quality ride service while reducing the number of vehicles on the road. The on-demand complimentary program is available to all residents and hotel guests and operates seven days a week, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Residents and guests can utilize Freebee within the entire Village and to areas as far north as Haulover Park, as far south as Publix in Surfside and as far west as the business district along Kane Concourse in Bay Harbor Islands.



To use Freebee, simply download the Freebee app (available in the Apple App store and Google Play store), select your current location, select Bal Harbour Village for your Destination Service Area, then select your specific destination, and enjoy the convenient ride. Learn more by visiting [balharbourfl.gov/freebee](http://balharbourfl.gov/freebee).

## SPECIALIZED ACCESS MATS BRING THE JOY OF THE BEACH TO ALL

A beautiful environment and elevated amenities are two of the pillars of the *Bal Harbour Experience*. Ensuring that these amenities are accessible to all residents and visitors is a top priority of the Village. Recently, our Public Works and Beautification Department purchased and installed ADA beach access mats at the main entrance for each beachside property. Hotels and condos can also request additional beach mats for their additional beach access points. This great amenity will facilitate easier and more convenient access to the beach for our residents and guests.



## CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The Capital Program Director, Mattie Reyes, and her team are working diligently on various projects to further enhance the Village. The Bal Harbour Waterfront Park project is nearing completion, as the mechanical, electrical and plumbing work in the facility continues. We anticipate substantial completion soon, and opening thereafter. To stay informed of opening dates and hours, please visit [balharbourfl.gov/waterfrontpark](http://balharbourfl.gov/waterfrontpark).

The Jetty project is progressing significantly, with the Village's architect, Mikyoung Design, working on the Design and Construction Document (CD), which is currently at 65%. The next submittal, of 75% CDs, is anticipated within the month, and full completion, 100% is slated for late summer.

The new Village Hall is also in the works, with the planning phase now well underway. The architect will develop the schematic / concept plan while concurrently conducting a Community input process. Please stay informed and participate in these meetings, in order to ensure that your feedback is considered. All of this feedback, along with the results from the special election on May 2, will be compiled and considered in the development of the Basis of Design Report (BODR).



# SUSTAINABLE BAL HARBOUR

## CREATING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY IN BAL HARBOUR

Over the last eight years, we have begun implementing initiatives that aim to improve our resiliency to coastal flooding and sea level rise and are deploying changes in our operations to make our practices more sustainable. As a coastal community, we recognize the responsibility we have to preserve our natural environment and the significant impact our actions can have by making small changes to our daily lives. Our staff, residents, businesses, and visitors continue to make daily changes to support a more sustainable lifestyle.

The Village has passed multiple ordinances including a ban on polystyrene products in the Village (2015) and a ban on the use, distribution, or sale of single-use plastics in commercial and government properties (2019). The Village also hosts various eco-driven events in a proactive approach to preserving our natural environment. Quarterly beach cleanups and annual hazardous materials collection events are great ways to get involved. These events help prevent potentially dangerous materials from affecting our beaches, waterways, and wildlife. Events are posted on our event calendar at [balharbourfl.gov/events](http://balharbourfl.gov/events).

## RECYCLING PROGRAM CREATES POSITIVE IMPACT

The recycling program in Bal Harbour Village has seen tremendous success with a positive impact on our environment. As of 2018, an additional collection day was added to the weekly schedule to provide residents with increased service to meet the current demand. Last fiscal year, over 196 tons of single-stream solid waste was received by the Village.

Within the Village, we utilize a single-stream approach to recycling - this means residents do not need to separate their recyclable materials. Accepted items include paper products, cardboard, cans, cartons, and plastic and glass bottles. All items should be clean and free of food and debris in order to prevent contaminating the collection. To view the current recycling schedule and what items are accepted, visit [balharbourfl.gov/recycling](http://balharbourfl.gov/recycling).

## SEA TURTLE SEASON

Sea Turtle Season begins April 1 and runs through October 31. Sea turtles are protected by local, state, and federal laws as all species of sea turtles are either threatened or endangered. Throughout the season, we will monitor nesting activities in coordination with the Miami-Dade County Sea Turtle Conservation Program to ensure that our beach is safe for nesting sea turtles and that all nests are marked and protected.

### How You Can Help Protect Our Sea Turtles

- Do not touch or disturb nesting sea turtles, hatchlings, or eggs.
- Avoid flashlights, flash photography, or any bright lights while on the beach at night.
- Keep the beach clean for nesting turtles and fill in any holes leaving a clear path for hatchlings to find their way to the water.

Learn more at [balharbourfl.gov/seaturtles](http://balharbourfl.gov/seaturtles).



### Sea Turtle Nests in Bal Harbour Village\*

- 52 Loggerhead Sea Turtle Nests
- One Leatherback Sea Turtle Nest
- One Green Sea Turtle Nest

*\*Numbers provided as of the 2021 nesting season. The 2022 numbers were not available at the time of printing.*



## SPRING FESTIVAL & BEACH CLEANUP EVENT

Residents and guests are invited to a **Spring Festival and Beach Cleanup on Sunday, April 23 from 3 - 6 p.m. on the beach by the jetty**. Be a part of the solution by volunteering at our quarterly local beach cleanup. Then enjoy our natural environment while learning how to protect it by living more sustainably. Guests will also enjoy live painting by a local sustainable artist, music, children's activities, and refreshments. Learn more at [balharbourfl.gov/events](http://balharbourfl.gov/events).

# NEWS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## TAX SEASON SAFETY TIPS

Safety is one of the key values of the *Bal Harbour Experience* upheld by our Bal Harbour Police Department (BHPD). Through their community policing approach, our police officers engage the community while providing excellent service and an unparalleled sense of safety. To avoid becoming a victim of tax scams, our BHPD shares some safety tips from the IRS:

- The IRS first contacts people by mail - not by phone or email.
- The IRS never asks for credit card information over the phone or requests the use of pre-paid debit card or wire transfer. The IRS never requests personal or financial information by email, text, or social media.
- Do not click links or open attachments in unsolicited emails or text messages about your tax return or those claiming to be from the IRS. These messages are fraudulent and could contain malware that could compromise your personal information.
- The IRS will not threaten to immediately have you arrested or deported for not paying.



In the digital world, it is now more important than ever to know how to safeguard your information online. Residents should register a pin with the IRS, use secure filing websites, take advantage of multifactor authentication, and create strong passwords. Residents are reminded that Bal Harbour Police officers and staff will never contact them directly to collect personal information over the phone. If someone contacts you requesting personal information over the phone, they are most likely phishing as part of a scam. Never reveal any personal information to them. If you are uncertain, hang up and contact our police dispatch at 305.866.5000.

Residents can report suspicious calls, emails or traditional mail to U.S. Department of the Treasury at [home.treasury.gov/services/report-fraud-waste-and-abuse/report-scam-attempts](https://home.treasury.gov/services/report-fraud-waste-and-abuse/report-scam-attempts). REMEMBER: The deadline to file your 2022 taxes is April 18.

## BHPD COMMUNITY EVENTS

Our Police Department looks forward to activities that create opportunities to engage with the community. In addition to supporting Village events to provide safety and security, our BHPD also hosts various events of their own throughout the year. These include Thanksgiving Basket Prep, Gift Wrapping, Back to School Drives, Bike Riding, Fraud Prevention Workshops, quarterly Coffee with a Cop social events and our annual 5K Race.



## BAL HARBOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT & ROTARY CLUB OF BAL HARBOUR 6TH ANNUAL 5K RACE



On Sunday, February 26, our Bal Harbour Police Department & the Rotary Club of Bal Harbour hosted the 6th Annual 5K Race at Haulover Park. With over 400 participants in attendance, this was a record event. The race is a major fundraiser for the Chief Mark N. Overton and Chief Miguel A. de la Rosa Police & Academic Scholarship. We are grateful to all of our participants, sponsors, local law enforcement agencies and partner organizations who made this event a success. We are looking forward to the 7th Annual Race! Look out for more details to come later this year.

## CHIEF MARK N. OVERTON AND CHIEF MIGUEL A. DE LA ROSA POLICE & ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

The Bal Harbour Rotary Club (BHRC) along with the Bal Harbour Police Department (BHPD) are in search of a graduating high school senior or currently enrolled undergraduate student from the Miami-Dade area interested in serving the community as a police officer or interested in pursuing an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice or Public Administration. The scholarship will assist with covering tuition up to \$5,000. Applications are due May 1. **Apply now at [balharbourfl.gov/scholarship](https://balharbourfl.gov/scholarship).**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT MAKES BAL HARBOUR AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY FOR ALL

Our BHPD is committed to making Bal Harbour an inclusive community for all. Recently, the Autism Society of Greater Orlando (ASGO) recognized Detective Hector Gonzalez as Ambassador of the Year for his efforts toward autism awareness and education. Our Police Department was also recognized as the 2022 Law Enforcement Agency of the Year for their ardent support of Autism Awareness Programs. BH Police Officers and civilian staff participate in autism training led by Detective Gonzalez. Their education-first approach has made Bal Harbour a safer and more welcoming community for all.



# HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

## SPOTLIGHT ON TOURISM

Tourism in Bal Harbour continues to flourish with hotels and restaurants experiencing strong resort tax collections. These collections return to the Village through the Resort Tax Fund for the promotion of tourism to the Village, special events, beautification efforts, and restoration and preservation of the beach.

Bal Harbour recently welcomed Aba Restaurant to the Bal Harbour Shops. Aba incorporates Chef CJ Jacobson's lighter style of cooking with influences from Israel, Lebanon, Turkey, and Greece. With group dining spaces, Aba can be the perfect location for your next special celebration.

## FLEURS DE VILLES RETURNS TO BAL HARBOUR

Building on the incredible success of past years, Bal Harbour celebrated Fleurs de Villes, March 3-12, 2023. This floral exhibition celebrated destinations around the world, while also telling the stories of remarkable women voyagers in recognition of Women's History Month. The spectacular 10-day floral extravaganza featured 28 pop-up floral installations created by some of Miami's favorite florists. Outdoor mannequins and floral art installations were on display throughout our hotels, the Bal Harbour Shops, and around the Village.

## SAVE THE DATE: ICE CREAM WE LOVE

Join us for our 5th Ice Cream We Love event at the Bal Harbour Shops featuring some of the best ice cream purveyors, scooping their favorite flavors for the whole family to enjoy. The event will take place Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21, from 1 - 5 p.m. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$20 for children. All proceeds from ticket sales benefit Holtz Children's Hospital. Tickets go on sale soon. Visit [balharbourflorida.com](http://balharbourflorida.com) for more information.

## LOVING SOLES SHOE DRIVE

Bal Harbour Village is once again participating in the annual Loving Soles shoe drive to collect new or gently-worn shoes for those in need throughout South Florida. All shoes collected will be donated to Camillus House. The shoe drive will take place from April 1 - 30, with collection bins located at the entrance of Village Hall and in the Police Station located on the 2nd floor of the Bal Harbour Shops. Your small donation can have a tremendous impact on those in need and together we can continue to make a difference in our community. Learn more at [balharbourfl.gov/shoedrive](http://balharbourfl.gov/shoedrive).

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: WINTER EVENTS

We had an incredible winter season of events! The season kicked off with Art Basel where over 400 tickets were distributed to various art fairs and events. Our Holiday Celebration brought holiday cheer and marked the start of the season in Bal Harbour. We commemorated the new year with a fireworks display off the jetty and a New Year's Day concert. January and February were filled with movies on the beach, art tours and concerts including Flamenco at Sunset featuring live dancers and memorable moments. You can view and download photos from our events at [balharbourfl.gov/photos](http://balharbourfl.gov/photos) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/balharbourgov](https://facebook.com/balharbourgov).



## CONNECT WITH US!

### WEBSITES

Village - [balharbourfl.gov](http://balharbourfl.gov) Tourism - [balharbourflorida.com](http://balharbourflorida.com)



### EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Get news from Bal Harbour Village delivered straight to your inbox. Scan the QR code or visit [balharbourfl.gov/stay-connected](http://balharbourfl.gov/stay-connected) to sign up or update your email preferences.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @balharbourgov @balharbourfl  
@balharbourpolicedept @balharbourpolicelegacyfoundation  
Instagram & Twitter: @balharbourgov @balharbourfl @balharbourpd

### BAL HARBOUR ALERTS

Receive up-to-date notices in the event of critical incidents, emergencies, or severe weather conditions. Alerts are sent by text, call, or email. Sign up at [balharbourfl.gov/textalerts](http://balharbourfl.gov/textalerts)

# CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**The Market at Bal Harbour Beach South**  
Sundays | 11 AM - 5 PM  
April 16 - May 14  
Bal Harbour Beach South, 96 Street & Collins Avenue

**Unveiling Police Autism Vehicle**  
Monday, April 17 | 3:30 PM  
Founders Circle, 9650 Collins Avenue

**Coffee with a Cop**  
Tuesday, April 18 | 8 - 9:30 AM  
Bal Harbour Beach Path (by the St. Regis Hotel), 9703 Collins Avenue

**Regular Village Council Meetings**  
Tuesday, April 18 | 6:30 PM  
Tuesday, May 16 | 6:30 PM  
Council Chamber, Village Hall, 655 96 Street

**Public Workshop: Special Election**  
Wednesday, April 19 | 6:30 PM  
Sea View Hotel, 9909 Collins Avenue

**Spring Festival & Beach Cleanup**  
Sunday, April 23 | 3 - 6 PM  
Bal Harbour Beach North (by the jetty), 10301 Collins Avenue

**Resort Tax Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday | 10:30 AM  
May 23  
2nd Floor Conference Room, Village Hall, 655 96 Street

**CONCERT SERIES**  
Concert on the Green ft. The South Florida Symphony Orchestra  
Sunday, April 30 | 6 - 7:30 PM  
Greenspace, Harbour Way & Collins Avenue

Sounds by the Sea ft. ABBA Tribute Band  
Sunday, May 21 | 6 - 7:30 PM  
Bal Harbour Beach North (by the jetty), 10301 Collins Avenue

**Special Election: Referendum**  
Tuesday, May 2 | 7 AM - 7 PM  
Sea View Hotel, 9909 Collins Avenue

**Architectural Review Board (ARB) Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, May 3 | 1 PM  
Council Chamber, Village Hall, 655 96 Street

**Full Moon Yoga on the Beach**  
Friday, May 5 | 7:30 - 8:30 PM  
Bal Harbour Beach North (by the jetty), 10301 Collins Avenue

**Special Master Hearing: Red Light Camera & Code Violations**  
Wednesday | 10 AM  
May 10  
Virtually via zoom:  
zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_3uy3IC-QrQ3Obw0JMSQcRfw

**UNSCRIPTED ART TOUR**  
Yayoi Kusama, Love is Calling at PAMM  
Friday, May 19 | 10:45 AM  
Perez Art Museum Miami, 1103 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33132

**Ice Cream We Love**  
Saturday, May 20 - Sunday, May 21  
1 - 5 PM  
Bal Harbour Shops, 9700 Collins Avenue

To register and for more information, visit [balharbourfl.gov/events](http://balharbourfl.gov/events).



## SAVE THE DATE: INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION DRONE & FIREWORKS DISPLAY

**JULY 4, 2023 | 7 - 9 PM**

**BAL HARBOUR BEACH NORTH (BY THE JETTY) 10301 COLLINS AVENUE**

For the first time, the Bal Harbour skyline will light up with a spectacular one-of-a-kind drone show during our annual **Independence Day Celebration**. The event will include live music, games, activities and refreshments.

The event is open to Bal Harbour residents and hotel guests. Registration is required. Wristbands will be available beginning Monday, June 5. For more information go to [balharbourfl.gov/events](http://balharbourfl.gov/events).

# BAL HARBOUR

- VILLAGE -

Bal Harbour Village Hall  
655 96th Street  
Bal Harbour, Florida 33154

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MIAMI, FL  
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2783

## BAL HARBOUR DIRECTORY

Normal operating hours for Village Hall are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

VILLAGE HALL  
305.866.4633

BUILDING DEPARTMENT  
305.865.7525

CAPITAL PROJECTS  
305.866.4633

FINANCE  
305.866.4633, Ext. 322

TOURISM  
305.866.4633, Ext. 332

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
305.866.5000  
(NON-EMERGENCY)

PUBLIC WORKS & BEAUTIFICATION  
305.866.4633, Ext. 368

RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE  
305.866.4633, Ext. 380